

- D1*
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- W-S-S-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:3),
 -W-S-Q-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:4),
 -W-S-P-W-S-E-W-T-S-C-S-T-S-C-G-N-G-I-Q-Q-R-G-R- (SEQ ID NO:15),
 -W-S-H-W-S-P-W-S-S-C-S-V-T-C-G-D-G-V-I-T-R-I-R- (SEQ ID NO:16),
 -W-G-P-W-S-P-W-D-I-C-S-V-T-C-G-G-G-V-Q-K-R-S-R- (SEQ ID NO:17),
 -W-S-Q-C-S-V-Y-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:18),
 -T-E-W-S-A-C-S-K-S-C-G-M-G-F-S-T-R-V-T-N-R-N- (SEQ ID NO:19), and
 -T-E-W-S-A-C-S-K-T-C-G-M-G-I-S-T-R-V-T-N-D-N- (SEQ ID NO:20).
- Concluded*

2. (Twice Amended) The peptide according to claim 1, wherein said A₁ is Pro or -X₁-W-X₂-X₃- (SEQ ID NO:5), X₁, X₂, and X₃ being chosen, independently of each other, from G, S and C, denoted SEQ ID NOS:50-59.

3. (Twice Amended) The peptide according to claim 2, wherein said A₁ is -X₁-W-S-X₃-, denoted SEQ ID NOS:6 and 60-64.

D2

4. (Twice Amended) The peptide according to claim 1, wherein said A₂ is selected from the group consisting of -R-S-, -V-S-, and -V-T-, denoted SEQ ID NOS:65-88.

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5. (Twice Amended) The peptide according to claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises at least the following amino acid sequence:

-W-S-X₁-W-S-X₂-C-S-A₂-C-G-, denoted SEQ ID NOS:7 and 89-96.

7. (Twice Amended) The peptide according to claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises the following amino acid sequence:

D3

Y-W-S-A₁-C-S-A₂-C-G-Z- (SEQ ID NO:9)

in which Y and Z constitute the N- and C-terminal ends of the peptide, comprise amino acid chains having less than 6 amino acids or comprise chains of compounds that are not amino acids, denoted SEQ ID NOS:97-168.

Please add the following claim:

16. (New) A peptide having at least the following amino acid sequence:
-W-S-G-W-S-S-C-S-R-S-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:8).
17. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a peptide according to claim 16 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.
18. (New) A method for regenerating nervous system cells, comprising contacting the cells with an effective amount of a peptide according claim 16.
19. (New) A method for treating a neurodegenerative disease, said method comprising administering to a patient with said neurodegenerative disease an effective amount of a peptide according claim 16.
20. (New) A method for treating a pathological condition or trauma requiring the regeneration of nervous system cells, said method comprising administering to a patient with said pathological condition or trauma an effective amount of a peptide according to claim 16.
21. (New) A method for treating a neuroblastoma, said method comprising administering to a patient with said neuroblastoma an effective amount of a peptide according to claim 16.
22. (New) An additive for culturing nerve cells, comprising a peptide according to claim 16.
23. (New) A cellular expression vector, comprising a nucleic acid sequence expressing a peptide according to claim 16.
24. (New) The cellular expression vector according to claim 23, wherein said vector comprises SEQ ID NO: 10.
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In the Specification (Sequence Listing)

Please insert the Sequence Listing filed concurrently herewith and renumber pages 1-10 of the Sequence Listing as pages 15-101. In addition, please delete the Sequence Listing filed on March 13, 2002.